



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/816,841	04/05/2004	Rakesh Thakor Patel	12351-12	2711
1059 7590 01/19/2011 BERESKIN AND PARR LLP/S.E.N.C.R.L., s.r.l. 40 KING STREET WEST BOX 401 TORONTO, ON M5H 3Y2 CANADA				
EXAMINER ZHU, BO HUI ALVIN				
ART UNIT 2465		PAPER NUMBER		
MAIL DATE 01/19/2011		DELIVERY MODE PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/816,841

Applicant(s)

PATEL ET AL.

Examiner

BO HUI A. ZHU

Art Unit

2465

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 October 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 14, 16 - 22, and 29 - 36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 14 and 16 - 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 21, 22 and 29 - 36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No.(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/08/2010 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. The amendment filed on 04/29/2010 has been entered.
Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 14, 16 – 22, and 29 - 36 are pending.
Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 21, 22 and 29 - 36 are rejected.
Claims 14 and 16 - 20 are allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 21, 22, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 21, line 22, the subject matter "the input processor control signals" lacks sufficient antecedence basis. All of the dependent claims of claim 21 are rejected for the same reason.

Claim 36, line 19, the subject matter "the output processor control signals" lacks sufficient antecedence basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1, 6, 29 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks et al. (US 7,269,841) in view of Schaub et al. (US 7,190,695) and Lebizay et al. (US 2003/0156535) and further in view of Hojabri (US 6,950,097).

(1) with regard to claim 1:

Hendricks et al. discloses a system and method comprising: (a) receiving a plurality of input signals (86, Fig. 7); (b) buffering each of the input signals in a memory system (142, Fig. 7); (c) processing at least one of the input signals to provide a processed signal and buffering the processed signal in the memory system (DEMUX 144 processes the input signals 86 to provide processed signals); (d) designating at least some of the input signals as packet source signals (selecting device 140 selects

input signals as packet source signals; see e.g. column 13, lines 19 - 36); and wherein at least one of the packet source signal is a video signal (video signal, Fig. 6a) and wherein each packetized signal corresponding to the packet source signal includes video data (sports, movies, etc., Fig. 6a).

Hendricks et al. does not disclose the feature of assigning each of the packet source signals a unique global identification code; retrieving at least one of the packet source signals and generating a packetized signal wherein the packetized signal includes a series of packetized signal packet, wherein each of the packetized signal packets contains the global identification code of one of the packet source signals and data corresponding to the same packet source signal; wherein each of the one or more packetized signals may be further processed using the unique global identification code of each packetized signal packet to produce one or more output signals; and each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display.

Schaub et al. teaches assigning each of the packet source signals a unique global identification code; retrieving at least one of the packet source signals and generating a packetized signal wherein the packetized signal includes a series of packetized signal packet, wherein each of the packetized signal packets contains the global identification code of one of the packet source signals and data corresponding to the same packet source signal (e.g. see Fig. 1 and column 2, lines 7 - 45, i.e. data signal of a set is transmitted in a series of packets over a communication link; each packet is assigned A, B, C or D to specify the set it belongs to; a set of packets can be

defined as a group of packet having e.g. the same flow, MAC address, or IP address, etc.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of assigning each of the packet source signals a unique global identification code; retrieving at least one of the packet source signals and generating a packetized signal wherein the packetized signal includes a series of packetized signal packet, wherein each of the packetized signal packets contains the global identification code of one of the packet source signals and data corresponding to the same packet source signal as shown in Schaub et al. in order to increase transmission capacity.

Lebizay et al. teaches packetized signals are processed using a unique global identification code of each packetized signal packet to produce one or more output signals (410, Fig 4; paragraph [0031], [0032]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each of the one or more packetized signals may be further processed using the unique global identification code of each packetized signal packet to produce one or more output signals as shown in Lebizay et al. so as to provide quality of service to network traffic and make switching of network traffic more efficient.

Hojabri teaches the feature of each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display (e.g. see column 5, lines 41 - 50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display as shown in Hojabri in order to have more flexibility in configuring the format of a signal output.

(2) with regard to claim 29:

Hendricks et al. in view of Schaub et al., Lebizay et al. and Hojabri discloses all of the subject matter as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1. Hendricks et al. further discloses processing at least one of the input signals to provide one or more processed signals and buffering the processed signal in the memory system (DEMUX 144 processes the input signals 86 to provide processed signals); and designating at least some of the input signals or the processed signal as packet source signals (selecting device 140 selects input signals as packet source signals; see e.g. column 13, lines 19 – 36).

(3) with regard to claims 31:

Hendricks et al. in view of Schaub et al., Lebizay et al. and Hojabri discloses all of the subject matter as discussed above in the rejection of claim 29. Hendricks et al. further discloses the processing step includes compressing one of the input signals to provide a processed signal (108, Fig. 5b).

(4) with regard to claim 9:

Hendricks et al. discloses a system and method comprising: receiving a plurality of input signals (86, Fig. 7); buffering each of the input signals in a memory system

(142, Fig. 7); designating at least some of the input signals or the processed signals as packet source signals (selecting device 140 selects input signals as packet source signals; see e.g. column 13, lines 19 - 36); transmitting packetized signal across a communications link (50, Fig. 6a); and wherein at least one of the packet source signal is a video signal (video signal, Fig. 6a) and wherein each packetized signal corresponding to the packet source signal includes video data (sports, movies, etc., Fig. 6a).

Hendricks et al. does not disclose the feature of assigning each of the packet source signals a unique global identification code; retrieving at least one of the packet source signals and generating a packetized signal wherein the packetized signal includes a series of packetized signal packet, wherein each of the packetized signal packets contains the global identification code of one of the packet source signals and data corresponding to the same packet source signal; receiving the packetized signal; extracting each of the packetized signal packets from the packetized signal; buffering each of the packetized signal packets containing the same global identification code in a separate data buffer in an output processor memory system and designating the packetized signal packets in each separate data buffer as an output source signal; producing each of the output source signals by retrieving one or more output source signals and combining the retrieved output source signals; and each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display

Schaub et al. teaches assigning each of the packet source signals a unique global identification code; retrieving at least one of the packet source signals and generating a packetized signal wherein the packetized signal includes a series of packetized signal packet, wherein each of the packetized signal packets contains the global identification code of one of the packet source signals and data corresponding to the same packet source signal (e.g. see Fig. 1 and column 2, lines 7 - 45, i.e. data signal of a set is transmitted in a series of packets over a communication link; each packet is assigned A, B, C or D to specify the set it belongs to; a set of packets can be defined as a group of packet having e.g. the same flow, MAC address, or IP address, etc.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of assigning each of the packet source signals a unique global identification code; retrieving at least one of the packet source signals and generating a packetized signal wherein the packetized signal includes a series of packetized signal packet, wherein each of the packetized signal packets contains the global identification code of one of the packet source signals and data corresponding to the same packet source signal as shown in Schaub et al. in order to increase transmission capacity.

Lebizay et al. teaches receiving the packetized signal (410, Fig. 4) extracting each of the packetized signal packets from the packetized signal (paragraph [0031]); buffering each of the packetized signal packets containing the same global identification code in a separate data buffer in an output processor memory system and designating

the packetized signal packets in each separate data buffer as an output source signal (430, Fig. 4; paragraph [0032]); producing each of the output source signals by retrieving one or more output source signals and combining the retrieved output source signals (450, Fig; paragraph [0051]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of receiving the packetized signal; extracting each of the packetized signal packets from the packetized signal; buffering each of the packetized signal packets containing the same global identification code in a separate data buffer in an output processor memory system and designating the packetized signal packets in each separate data buffer as an output source signal; producing each of the output source signals by retrieving one or more output source signals and combining the retrieved output source signals as shown by Lezibay et al. so as to provide quality of service to network traffic and make switching of network traffic more efficient.

Hojabri teaches the feature of each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display (e.g. see column 5, lines 41 - 50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display as shown in Hojabri in order to have more flexibility in configuring the format of a signal output.

(5) with regard to claim 32:

Hendricks et al. further discloses processing at least one of the input signals to provide one or more processed signals and buffering the processed signal in the memory system (DEMUX 144 processes the input signals 86 to provide processed signals); and designating at least some of the input signals or the processed signal as packet source signals (selecting device 140 selects input signals as packet source signals; see e.g. column 13, lines 19 – 36).

(6) with regard to claim 34:

Hendricks et al. further discloses the processing step includes compressing one of the input signals to provide a processed signal (108, Fig. 5b).

(7) with regard to claim 6:

Hendricks et al. does not disclose the position information includes pixel information indicating a position within a window at which the video data is to be displayed.

Hojabri teaches the position information includes pixel information indicating a position within a window at which the video data is to be displayed (e.g. see column 5, lines 41 - 50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of the position information includes pixel information indicating a position within a window at which the video data is to be displayed as shown in Hojabri in order to have more

flexibility in configuring the format of a signal output.

7. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks et al. (US 7,269,841) in view of Schaub et al. (US 7,190,695), Lebizay et al. (US 2003/0156535) and Hojabri (US 6,950,097), and further in view of Wager et al. (US 6,519,223).

(1) with regard to claim 2:

Hendricks et al. in view of Schaub et al., Lebizay et al. and Hojabri discloses all of the subject matter as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1. However, Hendricks et al. does not disclose the feature of each of packet source signals comprises a series of packet source signal packets, and wherein each of packetized signal packets is formed by retrieving one or more the packet source signal packets corresponding to a single packet source signal, extracting data from the retrieved packets, recording the global identification code of the single packet source signal and at least a portion of the extracted data in the packetized signal packet.

Schaub et al. teaches each of packetized signal packets is formed by retrieving one or more the packet source signal packets corresponding to a single packet source signal (A, B, C or D packet set each represents a packet source signal), extracting data from the retrieved packets, recording the global identification code of the single packet source signal and at least a portion of the extracted data in the packetized signal packet (each packet of a packet set contains a identifier that specify its packet set, and a portion of payload).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each of packetized signal packets is formed by retrieving one or more the packet source signal packets corresponding to a single packet source signal, extracting data from the retrieved packets, recording the global identification code of the single packet source signal and at least a portion of the extracted data in the packetized signal packet as shown in Schaub et al. in order to increase transmission capacity.

Wager et al. teaches the feature of each of packet source signals (210, Fig. 2) comprises a series of packet source signal packets (215, Fig. 2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each of packet source signals comprises a series of packet source signal packets as shown in Wager et al. in order to improve transmission reliability.

(2) with regard to claim 10:

Hendricks et al. does not disclose the feature of each of packet source signals comprises a series of packet source signal packets, and wherein each of packetized signal packets is formed by retrieving one or more the packet source signal packets corresponding to a single packet source signal, extracting data from the retrieved packets, recording the global identification code of the single packet source signal and at least a portion of the extracted data in the packetized signal packet.

Schaub et al. teaches each of packetized signal packets is formed by retrieving one or more the packet source signal packets corresponding to a single packet source

signal (A, B, C or D packet set), extracting data from the retrieved packets, recording the global identification code of the single packet source signal and at least a portion of the extracted data in the packetized signal packet (each packet of a packet set contains identifier A, B, C or D, and a portion of payload).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each of packetized signal packets is formed by retrieving one or more the packet source signal packets corresponding to a single packet source signal, extracting data from the retrieved packets, recording the global identification code of the single packet source signal and at least a portion of the extracted data in the packetized signal packet as shown in Schaub et al. in order to increase transmission capacity.

Wager et al. teaches the feature of each of packet source signals (210, Fig. 2) comprises a series of packet source signal packets (215, Fig. 2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each of packet source signals comprises a series of packet source signal packets as shown in Wager et al. in order to improve transmission reliability.

8. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks et al. (US 7,269,841) in view of Schaub et al. (US 7,190,695), Lebizay et al. (US 2003/0156535) and Hojabri (US 6,950,097), and further in view of Westberg (US 2003/1098226).

(1) with regard to claim 4:

Hendricks et al. in view of Schaub et al., Lebizay et al. and Hojabri discloses all of the subject matter as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1. However, Hendricks does not disclose each of packetized signal packets includes a global identification code, packet sequencing information and a data payload.

Schaub et al. teaches each of packetized signal packets includes a global identification code and a data payload (e.g. see Fig. 1 and column 2, lines 7 - 45, i.e. data signal of a set is transmitted in a series of packets over a communication link; each packet is assigned A, B, C or D to specify the set it belongs to; a set of packets can be defined as a group of packet having e.g. the same flow, MAC address, or IP address, etc).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each of packetized signal packets includes a global identification code and a data payload as shown in Schaub et al. in order to increase transmission capacity.

Westberg teaches a packet includes packet sequencing information (paragraph [0043]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each of packetized signal packets includes a sequencing information as shown in Westberg in order to allow segmented data packet to be reassembled without error.

9. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks et al. (US 7,269,841) in view of Schaub et al. (US 7,190,695), Lebizay et al. (US 2003/0156535) and Hojabri (US 6,950,097), and further in view of Gryskiewicz (US 6,937,291).

(1) with regard to claim 30:

Hendricks et al. in view of Schaub et al., Lebizay et al. and Hojabri discloses all of the subject matter as discussed above in the rejection of claim 29. However, Hendricks et al. does not disclose the processing step includes scaling one of the input signals to provide a processed signal.

Gryskiewicz teaches the feature of scaling input signals to provide a processed signal (see Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of the processing step includes scaling one of the input signals to provide a processed signal as shown in Gryskiewicz so as to have flexibility in changing the size and dimension of the output signal as well as to avoid aliasing artifacts of video signal.

(2) with regard to claim 33:

Hendricks et al. does not disclose the processing step includes scaling one of the input signals to provide a processed signal.

Gryskiewicz teaches the feature of scaling input signals to provide a processed signal (see Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of the processing step includes scaling one of the input signals to provide a processed signal as shown in Gryskiewicz in order to have the flexibility in changing the size and dimension of the output signal as well as to avoid aliasing artifacts of video signal.

10. Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks et al. (US 7,269,841) in view of Gryskiewicz (US 6,937,291) and further in view of Hojabri (US 6,950,097).

(1) with regard to claim 21:

Hendricks et al. discloses system comprising: a plurality of input ports for receiving a plurality of input signals (86, Fig. 7); a plurality of input signal processors for processing the input signals to provide a processed signal; a packetized signal output stage for retrieving one or more packet source signals from a memory system (142, Fig. 7) and for producing a packetized signal at the packetized signal output port (102, Fig. 7; 148, Fig. 8); an input processor local controller (90, Fig. 7) for controlling the operation of the memory system, signal processors and the packetized signal output stage (50, Fig. 6a); and wherein at least one of the packet source signal is a video signal (video signal, Fig. 6a) and wherein each packetized signal corresponding to the packet source signal includes video data (sports, movies, etc., Fig. 6a).

Hendricks et al. does not disclose a memory system for buffering the input signals; one or more signal processors for retrieving the input signals from the memory system and for processing the input signals to generate processed signals and for

storing the processed signals in the memory system; and each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display.

Gryskiewicz teaches a memory system (18 and 22, Fig. 1) for buffering the input signals (20, Fig. 1) ; one or more signal processors (26, Fig. 1) for retrieving the input signals from the memory system and for processing the input signals to generate processed signals (30, Fig. 1) and for storing the processed signals in the memory system.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of memory system for buffering the input signals; one or more signal processors for retrieving the input signals from the memory system and for processing the input signals to generate processed signals and for storing the processed signals in the memory system as shown in Gryskiewicz in order to modify the format of the video signals.

Hojabri teaches the feature of each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display (e.g. see column 5, lines 41 - 50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of each packetized signal includes position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display as shown in Hojabri in order to have more flexibility in configuring the format of a signal output.

(2) with regard to claim 22:

Hendricks et al. does not disclose the processing step includes scaling one of the input signals to provide a processed signal.

Gryskiewicz teaches the feature of scaling input signals to provide a processed signal (see Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of the processing step includes scaling one of the input signals to provide a processed signal as shown in Gryskiewicz so as to have flexibility in changing the size and dimension of the output signal as well as to avoid aliasing artifacts of video signal.

11. Claims 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lebizay et al. (US 2003/0156535) in view of Schaub et al. (US 7,190,695) and further in view of Hojabri (US 6,950,097).

(1) with regard to claims 35 and 36:

Lebizay et al. discloses a system comprising: a plurality of input stages (301, 302 and 303, Fig. 3), each of the input stages configured to receive an incoming packetized signal (300, Fig. 3) and store packetized signal packets extracted from the packetized signal in a memory system (430, Fig. 4); a plurality of output stages (450, 451 and 452, Fig. 4) each of the output stages configured to read packetized signal packets from the memory system and generate an outgoing packetized signal corresponding to the

packetized signal packets read by the output stage (420, 421 and 422, Fig. 4); and a router controller (410, Fig. 4) for controlling the storage of the packetized signal packets in the memory system and the generation of the outgoing packetized signals in response to router control signals received from a master controller (a traffic-engineering algorithm, [0035]).

Lebizay et al. does not disclose determining the global identification code of each packetized signal packet extracted from the packetized signal, and storing the packetized signal packets based on the unique global identification code; wherein at least one of the packet source signals is a video signal and wherein each packetized signal corresponding to the packet source signal includes video data and position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display.

Schaub et al. teaches determining a global identification code of each packetized signal packet extracted from the packetized signal, and storing the packetized signal packets based on the unique global identification code (102, Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Lebizay et al. to include the feature of determining the global identification code of each packetized signal packet extracted from the packetized signal, and storing the packetized signal packets based on the unique global identification code as shown in Schaub et al. in order to efficiently distinguish between different categories of incoming signal packets.

Hojabri teaches the feature of at least one of the packet source signals is a video signal and wherein each packetized signal corresponding to the packet source signal

includes video data and position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display (e.g. see column 5, lines 41 – 50; Fig. 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Hendricks et al. to include the feature of at least one of the packet source signals is a video signal and wherein each packetized signal corresponding to the packet source signal includes video data and position information indicating how the video data is to be displayed on a video display as shown in Hojabri in order to have more flexibility in configuring the format of a signal output.

Allowable Subject Matter

12. Claims 14 and 16 – 20 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BO HUI A. ZHU whose telephone number is (571)-270-1086. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 10am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571)-272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/B. A. Z./
Examiner, Art Unit 2465

/Jayanti K. Patel/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2465